

WARRIOR



LEADER

Volume 6, Number 4

2002 National Advanced Leadership Camp, Fort Lewis, Wash.

July 26, 2002

Looking for trouble

Patrolling STX turns cadets into combat leaders

Story on Page 4

**Squad STX
sets the stage**

Page 3

**Branch into
your career**

Page 6

**How old is
summer camp?**

Page 7

Commander's Comments

As we enter the final three weeks of the 2002 National Advanced Leadership Camp, I continue to be tremendously impressed and inspired by the energy, enthusiasm and strong performance of each cadet regiment. It is a pleasure to watch proud, fit, competent platoons pass in review at the graduation ceremony. We have already graduated six regiments comprising 1,995 cadets, 111 of whom were commissioned right there on Watkins Field. Each of you has eagerly taken on the challenges we lay in front of you. You are tougher, both physically and mentally, than when you arrived here at Fort Lewis a few weeks ago. You have proven yourselves to be the talented, committed young leaders we seek for our Army's officer corps. I strongly urge you to use your new skills and self-confidence to properly prepare next year's MS-IIIs for camp. That is the biggest contribution you can make to those who follow in your footsteps.

To the hundreds of cadre, both ROTC and USAR, a heart-felt thank you for working so hard and patiently to help these impressive cadets grow to their full potential. You



Col. Daniel S. Challis

should be justifiably proud of your role in the National Advanced Leadership Camp. Equally well-deserved thanks go to the soldiers, leaders and civilian employees of I Corps and the Fort Lewis installation who make this entire operation possible. The U.S. Army Cadet Command - Fort Lewis partnership is a model of mutual support and co-operation.

I wish every cadet and newly-commissioned lieutenant graduating from this camp the very best of luck! You point to a very bright future for our Army!

Ruck Up & Move Out!

NCO Notes

Congratulations to those cadets who have completed the 2002 ROTC National Advanced Leadership Camp here at Fort Lewis, Wash. I was greatly impressed with the high quality of training I saw among the committee cadre, the cadets they train and the camp staff who supported all aspects of our mission.

I also want to thank all the Army Reserve, Army National Guard and I Corps soldiers who have supported camp and contributed to the great achievements of this year. A special thank you goes out to the many DA civilians within Cadet Command and across Fort Lewis. Without their unending support, camp would not have been the success it was.

For the camp graduates, I have a further challenge for you. NALC was a stepping-stone for you to continue your development as future lieutenants in the Army. Now you must head back to your colleges and universities, prepared to train the Military Science students back on campus. You are now the subject matter experts concerning what it takes to successfully complete NALC — you must teach them all you know.

In closing, let me share with you the "CLAIM" acronym: Coach, Lead,



Command Sgt. Maj. Lewis Ferguson

Assess, Inspire and Mentor. Your cadre here at camp have used this acronym throughout your training and evaluation process as a way to keep the proper perspective on the Cadet Command mission — developing leaders to become the future of the U.S. Army. Think about your new responsibilities to coach and lead MS-IIIs to be ready for camp next year. You must now assess their abilities, inspire them to exceed the standard and provide the mentorship to get them prepared physically and mentally to do well at camp so they will be able to pass on the torch the following year. It's our legacy to keep up the fire. Burn brightly on your campuses.

Connection — The key to long-lasting success

By far the tallest living things found on Earth are the California redwood trees. Some stand taller than a 35-story building. Like all trees, redwoods continue to grow as long as they are alive. Thus, the longer a tree lives, the taller and wider it becomes. The most famous redwood tree in the world is General Sherman. Located in Sequoia National Park in California, it is almost as tall as a 30-story building, and it has been there for about 4,000 years. To support its height, its immense trunk is so large that 17 men stretching out their arms could just about reach around it. This single tree contains enough wood to construct 100 homes.

The redwood tree has few enemies. Scientists have researched the redwoods carefully and have not found even one that has died of old age, sickness or insect attack. Except for those cut down for timber, redwoods live on.

Their thick bark protects them against

fire, insects and disease. How clearly this should reflect the life of a believer. Believers likewise should have a thick bark (shield of faith) to protect them against the enemy's attacks.

Another amazing aspect of the redwoods is their ability to grow in semi-lighted areas, which makes it possible for them to grow to great heights. Believers who have gone through the darkness of life's challenges and emerged victoriously can be pillars of strength — great encouragers and counselors — because they not only have the power of the Holy Spirit, but empathy and understanding.

There is one incredible aspect of the redwoods' makeup, which is powerful lesson for believers. It seems there is only one characteristic of redwoods that can lead to their demise: their shallow root system. The roots of these towering giants of several hundred feet go down only about five to ten feet. When I first heard this, I didn't believe it. But I found out it's true. Can you

imagine building a 35-story building with five to ten feet below the surface? Did God make a mistake? Apparently not, because many of them have been standing for thousands of years. Well, maybe there isn't anything that can knock them down, but California has major windstorms and earthquakes, which could bring them down in a second.

What is the secret to their longevity? God has designed within them a unique feature, which provides a lesson for every believer. They grow in groups with their roots linked together. When the winds blow or the earth quakes, the trees stand strong. Those that begin growing in isolation don't survive very long. Likewise young or weak believers, though they have a lot of zeal, become easy targets for the enemy. The winds of adversity can destroy them.

Since the redwoods network together, their root systems can spread all over an entire acre of land. In a grove of redwoods, the trees' roots interlock with one another,

and the resulting strength enables them to withstand major attacks of nature.

This should encourage each of us to stay connected with our roots. We need one another for encouragement and protection. I am convinced that successful people know how to network; I encourage all soldiers in the Army — especially you ROTC cadets — to do the same. One of the comments I often hear from cadets regarding the common experience at the NALC is that cadets from various backgrounds and various places work well together. This is very crucial if you are a believer. You need other believers to help you; their prayers and support are crucial for survival in this highly stressful environment. An organization I would whole-heartedly recommend is Officers' Christian Fellowship. You will find them at almost all military posts and bases. Connect with them and grow in your spiritual life. There are also chaplains of all major faith groups in the military, and they can be of great assistance to you.



Volume 6, Number 4 National Advanced Leadership Camp
Fort Lewis, Wash.----- July 26, 2002

COMMANDER
Col. Daniel S. Challis

This Army funded newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army and the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. Contents of the *WARRIOR LEADER* are not necessarily official views of, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or HQ, 4th Region (ROTC). It is published using offset process by the Public Affairs Office, 4th Region (ROTC). Printed circulation: 4700. Submission of stories, editorials or news of interest is encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit all input based on space limitations and command

policy. Letters and inquiries should be addressed to: HQ, 4th Region (ROTC), U.S. Army Cadet Command, ATTN: ATOD-PAO, Capt. Stone, Box 339500, Fort Lewis, Wash. 98433-9500, Phone: (DSN) 357-7473 or (Commercial) (253) 967-7473. E-mail address: stonew@4rotc.lewis.army.mil
Public Affairs Officer - Capt. Woody Stone
Editor - Bob Rosenburgh
Staff Writers: 2nd Lt. Simon Flake, 2nd Lt. Mark Van Horn, 2nd Lt. Adam Carollo, 2nd Lt. Kate Abbonizio

Field fighting starts in the STX

Squad Situational Tactical Exercises put cadets into small-unit combat action scenarios

By 2nd Lt. Simon Flake

Photos by 2nd Lt. Adam Carollo

Squad Situational Tactical Exercises are one of the main events for cadets at National Advanced Leadership Camp. This is where cadets display their leadership abilities and are evaluated by Army standards. Squad STX also affords cadets the opportunity to leave the garrison environment and discover the adventure of “camping” in the evergreen forests of Fort Lewis.

Squad STX evaluates a cadet’s leadership ability in the field. The 23 leadership dimensions, along with the seven Army values, serve as the tools evaluators use to accurately assess a cadet’s abilities. Lt. Col. James Shutt, the Professor of Military Science at Southern Illinois University, is officer in charge of Squad STX. “We look for leaders who can take charge, supervise, motivate and communicate with those in their squad,” he explained.

Squad STX is organized into 64 lanes on a 35-square-kilometer area. From there, 32 lanes are allocated to one regiment, while the other 32 lanes accommodate another regiment, so two regiments can attend at the same time.

Each Squad STX lane is based on missions and battle drills found in Field Manual 7-8, Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad. Even when a cadet is well trained on FM 7-8 missions, he or she must still be able to think “outside the box.” The Squad STX committee prepared several fragmentary orders to keep cadets on their feet during the exercise.



A scout watches warily ahead of the squad to find information about the enemy’s strength and position.

Opposing Forces (OPFOR) add to the mixture of ingredients called Squad STX. The OPFOR has a wealth of experience. The most valuable players from combat arms, including Special Forces and Army Rangers, are at Squad STX training and mentoring these future warrior leaders. The personnel include individuals with combat jumps, and all the OPFOR personnel are highly qualified and certified in the active-duty Army. The two contending squads are Team Wolverine and Team Grizzly. Each team is identically structured for comparable capabilities through the training and evaluating process. The cadre members expressed their motivation and dedication to the duty of providing cadets with a realistic picture of combat in the forest. Lt. Col. Mike Murphy, from Claremont College, is team chief for Team Wolverine.

“Squad STX is the highlight of a cadet’s experience at camp,” he said. “We take it personal to provide cadets with the best training, mentoring and assessing experience.”

The cadre at Squad STX goes out to the lanes each day to ensure evaluations are fair and honest assessments of a cadet’s performance.

“We try to hold up a mirror to the cadets and tell them ‘This is what you look like as a leader right now,’”



Movement to contact is a delicate balance of stealth, tactics and control of the combat team.




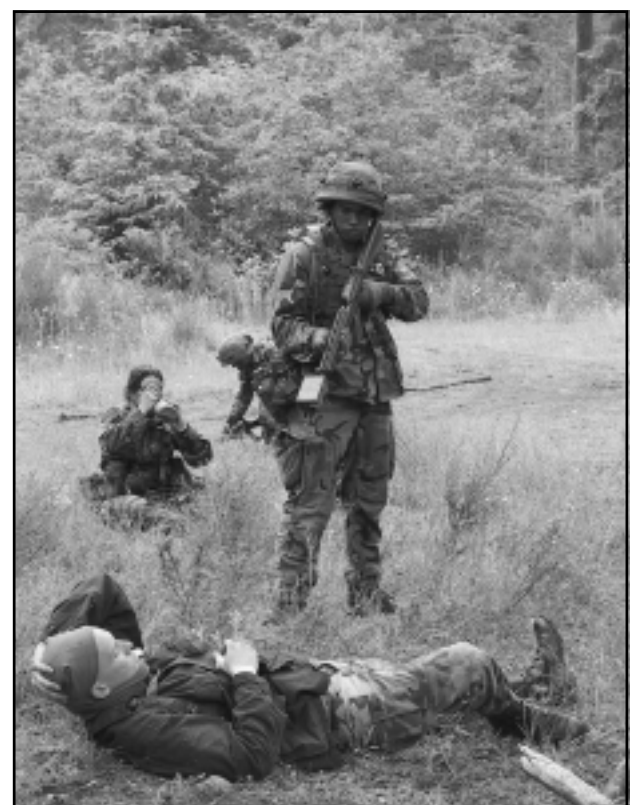
Squad members must keep their guard up even when at a halt. Each cadet is rigged with MILES laser equipment to add realism to the battles.

Murphy said, “so if you need improvement, are satisfactory, or are rated excellent, you know what you need to do to get better.” Squad STX cadre preparations began in November when they were notified they would be a part of this committee. The trainer/evaluators trained for a week to meet certification standards. Each is proficient in doctrine, after-action-review procedures, leadership-development procedures, counseling risk management, safety brief, MILES gear, environmental consideration and overall tactical scenarios. Each also walked the lanes for three to four days, coordinating with OPFOR.

Of all the equipment that heightens reality at Squad STX, MILES gear is perhaps the most important. MILES, or Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System, simulates combat injuries and fatalities on the lanes. When OPFOR successfully engages cadets or cadets successfully engage OPFOR, the MILES continuously beeps to indicate that someone has been hit. If someone is hit

by a laser beam (they are invisible and eye-safe), he or she must take the key out of his or her weapon and place it into the harness located on the body portion of the MILES gear. Cadet Carston Hoyt, from Washington State University, said, “It adds a realism factor that we hadn’t had before. You really have to keep your head down more because there are consequences if you don’t, as opposed to charging forward and continuing on with your mission.”

Squad STX was conceived to give cadets the resources they need to enhance their skills in the science of warfare and the art of leadership. It is an event that requires cadets to use all of the skills that they have learned in ROTC for success in the lanes against the OPFOR. It is programmed for Day 18 for each regiment, and once cadets begin this five-day event, they have passed the halfway point at NALC. Squad STX also gives cadets a chance to enjoy the wilderness with a training event that is more like an adventure. For NALC cadets, Squad STX is for kicks. 



While one cadet holds an OPFOR prisoner at gunpoint, another grabs a drink of water and a third adjusts his equipment.

Patrol STX: Learning to lead when fighting in the field makes cadets get stressed without rest to test their best



2nd Lt. Adam Carollo

A CH-47D Chinook (above) heads out after dropping a 1st Regiment cadet combat team at the Patrolling STX training area.

Another group of 1st Regiment cadets (left) moves out in a loose march formation on the way to its mission objective.

A section leader (below) communicates by radio with his commander while coordinating the next phase of his mission.

By 2nd Lt. Mark Van Horn

Tension mounted as rotor blades whirled through the air and the huge Chinook helicopter bounced onto the landing zone, sending a cloud of dust swirling around an intense group of cadets headed inside the small, fictitious country of Paloma to conduct military operations. Cadets scrambled aboard, buckled seat harnesses and prepared for a nap-of-the-earth flight that danced between towering fir trees and ended at a pre-designated insertion point somewhere on the Fort Lewis training area. The patrol, from Team Eagle, flew to that undisclosed location inside Paloma to protect the beleaguered country of Paloma from their simulated bully neighbors, the Caquetans. The mission was to stabilize the region by making it impossible for Caquetan forces to consolidate a hold on the disputed borderlands. This air assault mission is just one of four that cadet patrols will conduct over a three-day block at Patrolling STX, the focal point of all their NALC training.

During NALC, cadets receive intelligence reports about the rising tensions between two countries, Paloma and Caqueta. These reports give cadets the sensation of participating in a period of training prepping them for a real-world mission into foreign territory. Patrolling is supposed to feel like a real mission against a real enemy.

The training is three days long, but is more physically exhausting than Squad STX. There are more obstacles to test cadets' handling of leadership. Instead of leading for only two hours with a smaller group, the patrol leader and assistant patrol leader will lead for a much longer period of time and must coordinate the actions of a much

larger organization than a squad.

"The largest physical challenge for the cadets is simply moving to the objective and then the movements after the objective," said Maj. Sam Houston from Providence College, who is the Team Eagle - Alpha 8 lane trainer. "It's a lot of rucking and it's taxing. They have to tote their gear long distances under continual operations. Once we go into the box we're hot for the whole time, anything can happen."

There are four missions - a raid, an ambush, an air assault and a link up. Each mission can be several thousand meters long. The lane trainers do not interfere. In other words, if a cadet patrol leader makes a mistake on land navigation and decides to turn a 2,000-meter lane into a 10,000-meter lane, patrolling cadre will go ahead and let it happen.


The lane trainers have the ability to change the sce-



Sgt. 1st Class Gary Ogilvie

nario at any moment. This forces cadets to think flexibly and respond to situations accordingly. It puts the patrols into real-world situations like many they will be faced with in a real army environment. They will have to deal with displaced civilians, border disputes, armed rebels, drug dealers and all kinds of situations that can surface.

Patrolling STX has remained unchanged since it replaced Platoon STX last year. The lanes are the same, the environment and mission goals haven't changed, but now TACs evaluate both the patrol leaders and assistant patrol leaders. Cadets are assigned a leadership position during patrolling by their regimental cadre. Patrolling provides an opportunity to expand leadership dimensions where they were previously evaluated as simply satisfactory or no-go.

"Patrolling gives borderline cadets the chance to change that status and excel," said Houston. "The cadre are looking for an opportunity to see the cadet leadership learn something new. This is about having one more time to prove strengths and improve on weaknesses." 



2nd Lt. Adam Carollo

A cadet from the 3rd Regiment takes cover behind his field gear while crawling toward a fighting position.



2nd Lt. Mark Van Horn

Second Regiment cadets form up for the journey home at the end of their Patrolling STX sequence.

Officers' Christian Fellowship promotes values

Story and photo by
2nd Lt. Simon Flake

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses."
2 Corinthians 10:3-4

The Officers' Christian Fellowship is an organization that works alongside Army chaplains to provide spiritual guidance to our nation's warrior leaders. Lt. Col. Thomas Joseph is the NALC Chaplain. Joseph, whose primary mission in NALC is to provide spiritual leadership to camp personnel, said, "All officers should get involved in the OCF because it's possible for a great officer to be a Christian. In this sense officers can serve God and country."

The OCF was founded in America in 1943 during World War II from a parent organization in England named the Officers' Christian Union. British officers assigned to the Pentagon during the war brought this ministry as a Christian union in their country, but when they left America the union turned into a fellowship.

Terry Kipp, field representative for OCF in the Puget Sound area, said, "This is a program that comes under the umbrella of the chapel, so we are resources that help the Chaplain." He added, "We are here to help individuals to integrate their faith with their profession, to become better soldiers."

The OCF is a support organization for soldiers. Christian officers in each area come together and have Bible study. These spiritual appointments are set for officers to support one another and talk about the challenges they face in leadership and life. This time of fellowship enables officers to share experiences to shape



Terry Kipp (left), the OCF representative for the Puget Sound area, collects membership data from several cadets during Branch Orientation.

and sharpen their skills in leadership.

2nd Lt. Jonathan Tolson, 3rd Platoon leader in B Troop, 1st Squadron, 14th Cavalry at Fort Lewis, is a member of the OCF. Tolson said, "Your relationship with God and what you do here enables you to be more compassionate. It also helps you to provide better counsel for your soldiers during difficult times."

Lt. Col. James Page was the Phase-I Protocol Officer at National Advanced Leadership Camp and the Professor of Military Science at Wake Forest University. Page is also a member of the OCF. Page was motivated to become a member of the OCF because it presented him with the opportunity for fellowship with other Christians.

"The OCF is a great way to plug into other Christians in the military because we are ambassadors for Christ in uniform - that's our mission, to transform the military for Jesus Christ. It's also great for fellowship with fellow believers," Page said.

To become a member of the OCF, link up with other officers who are already a part of the fellowship. Literature can be obtained

by visiting post chapels or by logging on to the OCF website. No matter where you may be stationed, there is a network of Christian officers in every military installation. The OCF is a non-denominational evangelic Christian organization that helps integrate the Christian faith with the military. The OCF strives to provide encouragement for the warrior leaders of America and the warriors they lead.

Page adds, "Three important elements the Army wants us to have: physical fitness, mental fitness, and spiritual fitness. Spiritual fitness is the moral compass that provides us guidance and direction and its vital for officers to be well grounded in each."

Members are required to study designated texts and continually develop his or her physical fitness level to become an officer in the United States Army. The OCF is not a requirement, but it helps to add another dimension to an officer's leadership capability. By becoming a member of OCF and receiving its guidance and teaching, officers will then be able to lead from the front with all three parts of their being.

Cadets react and prepare for war on terror

By 2nd Lt. Mark Van Horn

Following last year's Sept. 11 terror attacks, the entire nation reeled in shock as our vulnerability to assaults became clear. President Bush said we would "root out terrorism wherever it may grow" and our military was soon fighting in Afghanistan and other hot spots. For the first time since Desert Storm, cadets have trained at their universities and summer camp in the shadow of a major conflict. And although late-night pizza binges and hammering out term papers define a significant percentage of a cadet's time during college, military courses and field training exercises remind the Army's future lieutenants that this is a profession which forges history, usually at the cost of spilled blood. Granted, this war is a "different kind of war," but for any one working at NALC, there is an obvious hard edge to the training.

Sept. 11 was a crisis for everyone. It shocked Cadet Douglas Healy at the Rochester Institute of Technology when he saw the fireballs explode over New York streets.

"I remember being in bed, when my friend came in and turned on the TV. That plane crashed into the tower and I remember asking him which movie it was, because I couldn't remember seeing it," he said.

Cadet Richard Scott Anderson, who lives thirty minutes outside of New York City on Long Island, was concerned about people he knew who worked in the twin towers.

"In my Military Science class, the phone rang and it was our Professor of Military Science telling us about the attacks. We turned on the TV and the first thing I saw was the twin towers with smoke pouring out of it. I started thinking about my friends' parents who worked in the buildings. One of my friend's fathers was a firefighter. He died in the attacks."

Cadets involved in simultaneous membership programs with National Guard and Reserve units were anxious to learn about possible unit activations to go fight a war or help aid New York City.

"When the plane hit, I was right out the door and on my way to my unit," said Cadet Stuart Loy from Rutgers University. "They told us we were going to deploy. We never did, but that's how I feel now, ready to go when my country calls."

Many fellow students, aware that their classmates were in the Army ROTC program, were concerned that their friends might get activated. "The immediate concern from many of our friends, who didn't know anything about ROTC, was that we were going to get called up for war," said Anderson.

Some ROTC programs cancelled scheduled field training during first semester. After the attacks Georgetown University and Rochester Institute of Technology cadets postponed all military science curriculum requirements except military campus classes. Other programs' training continued without an interruption.

At Niagara University the president, a former senator, didn't cancel classes because President Bush asked Americans to continue living a normal life.

After the attacks cadets experienced a wave of gratitude for those serving in the armed forces.

"We'd walk in to a minimart after mil-lab and people would say, 'No charge for you - thanks for defending our country,' and it was neat to see that kind of patriotism sweeping across our country," said Loy.

People in the military are now debating where the next target of our war on terror might be and when we'll strike. Officers and cadets alike speculate and watch the Army beefing up their firepower and support assets. No one knows exactly what the future holds, but the thousands of new lieutenants will do what was done before by other American officers in times of war - learn to win.

Feeding five thousand faces

By 2nd Lt. Mark Van Horn



It seems like hot meals are always ready at the mess hall, but how many cadets know of the effort required to get the food to them or just how many meals are served in a day?

As cadets pile into the dining facility, entering in groups of five and shouting out their regimental mottos, a team of white-clad workers from the HAGO Corporation start piling food onto the cadets' trays. Within minutes, one platoon after another passes through the DFAC as cadets scramble to stuff as much corn-dogs, hamburgers, potatoes and whatever else they've been given, into their mouths before the "friendly" regimental sergeant major "kicks" them out the door on the way to the next training event. Operating under the concept that talking requires air moving along vocal cords, camp cadre logically assume that conversation substantially increases the amount of time required to consume the several-thousand-calorie-a-day intake needed to remain healthy while burning energy at camp.

It's a specialized feeding system de-

signed to give nearly 5,000 NALC cadets a good, hot and healthy meal and is an undertaking that requires special procedures and planning. "We will feed approximately 4,000 cadets plus two Officer Candidate School regiments in 11 Dining Facilities," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Darrell Nielsen the officer in charge of food service.

The reaction of cadets to the process tends to change. The way they stare at the pile of food on their trays varies depending on the phase of training. Recent arrivals, remembering mom's cooking, are less than enthusiastic. Grubby camp-veteran cadets, fresh from Squad STX or Patrolling STX, are ecstatic. Hot food is a treasure after days of MREs.

All this work is done by a contracted civilian corporation - HAGO. They sign for the buildings and equipment and handle all the

food logistics of camp. "HAGO runs the distribution point, supplies all the food, they do the menus, stock all the dining facilities, and provide all the cooks and DFAC attendants," said Nielsen. Each DFAC has a QAE or Quality Assurance Evaluator. "They are our eyes and ears on how well the cadets are being fed, and they bring the cadets into the DFAC," he added. They move the insulated Mermite containers out to training sights for hot meals, pick up MREs and distribute those to all the regimental supply sergeants for disbursement.

By camp's end last year, 259,547 hot rations were served, 139,080 MREs were distributed and 5,650 "Jimmy Dean" box meals were doled out. For this year's camp, the addition of two more regiments of cadets means even more meals will be eaten.



Checkin' out the options: Branch Orientation gives cadets a glimpse of their new careers

By 2nd Lt. Kate Abbonizio

Cadets in their MS-III school year have a certain type of anticipation for both the upcoming summer at National Advanced Leadership Camp and with the choice of picking a possible career field, their Army officer branch. Each cadet's accessions packet is a cumulative snapshot of their achievements and standing in academics, ROTC classes, extracurricular activities and personal conduct. The people involved in choosing the branch for each cadet, the "board," spends months trying to find the perfect balance between the Army's needs and each cadet's desires. During NALC, in the midst of various training events and in between changes in leadership, one particular day could possibly determine the career path of any single cadet. It is called Branch Orientation day.

At 8 a.m., Master Sgt. Dennis Todd, 4th ROTC Region's Training NCOIC, gives a brief overview to the



The interior of a CH-47D Chinook might be the office of one of these cadets if he or she branches Aviation ...

cadets in regiments one through seven of the day's events. Excitement fills the air as cadets learn they will see the new Stryker Infantry Carrier Vehicle (ICV) at the infantry tent or step inside a CH-47D Chinook helicopter at the aviation tent. The orientation concludes around 5 p.m. after cadets have a chance to speak directly with their desired branch representative.

The most popular branch requests are in combat arms, which range from Armor, Aviation, Field Artillery, Infantry and Special Forces (though no cadets can branch straight special forces upon commissioning), to Engineer and Air Defense Artillery. Officers in the Air Defense Artillery branch will most likely be attached to infantry units and, according to the branch mission statement, will be "protecting the force and selected geopolitical assets from aerial attack, missile attack and hostile surveillance."

Armor officers, otherwise known as "tankers," rely on mobility, firepower and shock action to destroy the enemy. Considered by many to be a war-winner, they command some of the most powerful land fighting machines ever created. The current Main Battle Tank, the M1A2 Abrams, destroyed more enemy armor and vehicles in Desert Storm than all other combat actions combined.

Aviation, on the other hand, relies on aircraft. They find, hold in place and destroy the enemy through aerial fire and 3-dimensional maneuver. They also move troops and resupply all battlefield elements from the air.

Next is the Engineer corps. Often first to arrive to destroy obstacles and clear roadways, the engineer corps also clears the objective, dismantling any possible minefields to ensure no friendly casualties occur. Other



The Army's new "Stryker" wheeled combat vehicle is currently undergoing tests at Fort Lewis where the Interim Brigade Combat Team is under development. Officers in a variety of combat arms branches will use these machines in future conflicts.



... or this UH-60 Blackhawk used as a helicopter ambulance to evacuate battlefield casualties.

duties include tactical bridging of rivers and gulleys, military engineering, topographic engineering and civil works.

The "king of battle," or the Field Artillery branch, supports the ground-gaining units by destroying, neutralizing or suppressing the enemy with canon, rocket or missile fire.

The final branch in combat arms that cadets can choose from is the most popular - Infantry. The insignia and motto says it all, with cross rifles bearing the slogan, "Follow Me." Through the Infantry, branch officers will have the opportunity to attend schools such as ranger, airborne, mountain warfare, pathfinder and SCUBA in addition to a chance of entering the elite special operations branch. Cadets also have many options other than combat arms. There are combat support options such as Military Intelligence, Military Police, Chemical and Signal Corps. In 2001, more than 500 cadets ranked military intelligence as their top choice, though only 302 commissionees received it, there must be something enticing about the branch. The MI functions include electronic intelligence, counterintelligence, cryptology, signals intelligence and much more.

Military police protect against threat forces in the rear areas as they expedite the forward movement of critical combat resources and evacuate enemy prisoners of war from the battle areas. Signal Corps relies on the newest technology to pass information through the chain of command and, using its considerable electronic resources, can process the data accurately to ensure continued situational development. The Chemical Corps could be considered the branch of the future with expertise in nuclear, biological and chemical warfare, including defense, employment,

reconnaissance and decontamination. If cadets still have not found something of interest, combat service support can help. These are branches like Transportation, Adjutant General, Finance, Medical, Quartermaster and Ordnance, allowing newly-commissioned officers to handle numerous kinds of duties.

In this one day, cadets can experience a little bit of all these branches. Officers from every branch display on site shouted with pride that their branch was the "best branch in the United States Army."

First Lt. David Moser, 513th Transportation Division at Fort Lewis, was succinct: "We're all about customer service and if that doesn't help you in the real world, I don't know what will!" This produced some chuckles. It



A grinning cadet tries her hand with the Stinger shoulder-fired air defense missile.

could be enough for just one cadet to change his mind about putting transportation as his number one choice. Another tent brimmed over with enthusiasm as cadets helped each other board the Chinook. Cadet Christopher Munar, from the Citadel, said he had misconceptions about many of the branches before coming to branch orientation. What he enjoyed most was "that the information wasn't relayed to us in classrooms through briefing or lectures, but rather, we had the opportunity to walk through and ask our own questions." His top choice right now: Field Artillery. His top choice before branch orientation: Medical Service.

You could say the old axiom, "Seeing is believing," defined the day for Munar as he moves one step closer to his accessions process. Like many cadets, Munar has honed his choices for the future. While the day many not have been a success for the Medical Service corps, losing the top choice on Munar's list; it was a victory for a different branch. Field Artillery, the "king of battle," earned its reputation and won this time ... until branch orientation next year, that is.

Cadets have fun with an Army of One: Each has something unique or interesting as a personal claim to some kind of fame

By Bob Rosenburgh
Compiled by Betty Roberts

If the whole exceeds the sum of its parts, then the Army of One adds up to a mighty interesting collection of heroes, heroines, talents and rib-ticklers. Upon their arrival at National Advanced Leadership Camp, we quizzed the cadets about themselves, and their answers revealed some interesting facts and attitudes.

“What is unique or interesting about you?” was the question. And so were the answers. A large number of them said they were motivated to succeed, flexible and dynamic, physically fit and adventurous or hard-working and dedicated. Perhaps not so unique, but certainly admirable and, as so many citations read, “worthy of emulation by their peers.”

Another predominant response was praise for their children, spouses or “significant others.”

“I am 21 with a one-year-old beautiful baby girl and a beautiful wife,” said Cadet Corbin Copeland, from Oklahoma State University. Cheriece Peterson, from Virginia State University, placed in a Ms. ROTC Pageant and is a model, but she’s proudest of her one- and three-year-old boys and her husband. Kenneth Washington, from Alabama A&M, is in Who’s Who as an outstanding young American, and he says his daughter is “the brightest, loveliest three-year-old on Earth.”

The interest in family doesn’t stop there, as many say they are either the first in the clan to be an officer, or are the latest in a long line of service members. Others, like Cadet Terry Durham, from the University of Louisville, are serving in tandem. Like several other cadets, he has a twin who is also a cadet at the 2002 NALC.

Pets are family, too, right? Cadet Craig Bryant, from

Jacksonville State University, is going to Airborne and Special Forces, but he prefers to keep snakes as pets rather than be a “snake eater.” Cadet Stanley Johnson IV, from the University of North Dakota, brings his Saint Bernard to school where the cadets treat it like an NCO. Steve Johnston, Carson-Newman College, has a chocolate Labrador Retriever and Gregory Elko, McDaniel College, has a Golden Lab. Cadet Brian Michael, from Western Michigan University, just got a new puppy.

Then come the hobbies, many of which are careers in themselves or augment military training. Cadet Robin Denise Campbell, from Grand Canyon University, is a nursing major who plays full-contact football in an all-female league. Cadet Rachel Robinson, from Lewis University, was a medal-winning female wrestler in high school and Cadet David LaValle, from Stanford University is a National saber-fencing champion in the under-17 category.

Some are musicians who play in bands, like Cadets Thomas Murphy, from Ohio State, Anthony Hammon, from University of Washington, or Nealy Ambron, from Penn. State, who doubles as a disk jockey. Artists abound, too. Cadet Eugene Kim, from St. John’s University, has won numerous art awards through his schooling, while Jakob Hosmer, from Norwich, will have some of his work published in NYC magazine this fall.

Some cadets already have a leg up on their branch prospects, too, like Cadet Adam Stine, from Ohio University. He is a certified flight instructor who hopes to be an Army aviator. And Cadet Brian Hunt, from the University of North Dakota, is licensed as an airplane pilot, helicopter pilot and a SCUBA diver. Joshua Reynolds, from Ball State, is a criminology major, was a correctional officer in a maxi-

mum-security prison and trains in the martial arts. You can guess what branch he would do well in. And what better branch than Airborne Infantry for licensed skydiver David Zielinski, from Drexel University?

Some cadets are prior-service veterans enrolled in Green-to-Gold or the Simultaneous Membership Program, but what about those who fought in wars that ended long before they were even born? Impossible, you say? Talk to Cadet Richard Byrd II, of Ball State, who is a member of the Civil War’s 1st Wisconsin Light Artillery Battery. Cadet Jennifer Ernest serves regularly in both the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, while Mark Priest, of Columbus State University, makes medieval armor for his knighted friends. If you haven’t guessed, they are all historic battle re-enactors.

There are real-world heroes in the cadet ranks, too. As a lifeguard, Cadet Mark Ross, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, completed more than 40 rescues in four years. And prior-service Cadets Sonny Hanson, from University of New Orleans, and Vic Underwood, from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, are Desert Storm veterans.

They are, indeed, a diverse and interesting group of human beings. Some are unique because they are not entirely unique, like Cadet Philip Chikote, from Georgia Military College, who looks like Tom Cruise. Cadet Ferrell Ennis, from the University of Mississippi, says he wants to have some fun in the Army and retire at 25, and Cadet Joe Black, from the University of Southern Mississippi, chuckles that “Meet Joe Black” is a movie named after him (not). Then there is Cadet Christopher Barber, from the University of Southern California, who really was on “The Price is Right.”

We also have those special individuals whose answers were predicated on a slightly modified or over-specific definition of “unique” or “interesting.” Cadet Aimee Laz, from Illinois State University, said it was “me and my DNA,” while James Heinecke, from University of Florida said simply, “my fingerprint.” Adam Shields, of Central Washington University, said “I have a very round head,” and Susan Penn of the University of Kentucky said, “I talk funny.” Kyle Patterson, Clemson University, claims, “I’m the only one of my kind.”

Finally, there are the words of Cadet James Copp, a political science major from Ball State University, who aspires to one day be in middle management with some huge corporation. “I am very average.”

ROTC summer camps date back nearly a century

By 2nd Lt. Kate Abbonizio

It is 8 p.m. on a Friday. The breeze is cool and crisp and the sun has just slipped beneath the skyline. Young adults across the country are stepping out of the shower and preparing for a night out on the town. Phones are ringing and people are making plans. That is, unless they are at Fort Lewis for National Advanced Leadership Camp, where weekends are nonexistent and showers are a luxury. But ROTC summer camp has not always been so rigid and demanding. Years ago, cadets enjoyed weekends off and had time to enjoy the tourist attractions in the region. It’s unimaginable today for the platoon evaluators hosting barbeques and picnics or joining cadets for a night in Seattle. The long-awaited weekend is now the long-awaited five-minute phone call or the eight minutes cadets have to devour their care packages in the first few days. Instead, cadets have traded volleyball and softball for a ride in a Chinook. Times have changed, but the changes underscore progress.

The history of ROTC goes back nearly a century to when Army Chief of Staff Gen. Leonard Wood wanted to improve military training that already existed at some colleges and universities. His idea of introducing a summer camp was widely accepted and, in 1913, two experimental camps for high school and college students were activated in Pacific Grove, Calif. and Gettysburg, Penn. In the fall of 1916, ROTC was established and more than 46 universities sponsored ROTC programs.

Based on these courses, said Maj. Gen. James M. Lyle in a 1996 speech, “Over 90,000 officers were commissioned for service in World War I and these camps served as models for the ROTC summer training program that followed for the war.” Three years later, victory made the program’s success apparent. Since it’s inception, ROTC has undergone many changes to keep up with the times. Much has changed since those early years in 1913. Camp has drastically decreased its length, winding down to 32 days instead of a previous 45-day duration.

Mrs. Susan Mayer, Deputy Personnel Coordinator at NALC, has seen camp go through a range of stages.

“ROTC has pretty much kept up with what is really happening in the Army,” she said, “and though training has changed to become a little more technical, which is necessary, the overall mission is still consistent with years past - to evaluate each cadet’s leadership skills and train them for the future.” As the eyes and ears of the personnel office, she checks the “board” every day to see how the cadets are advancing through camp. She knows where and when each event takes place to maintain proper accountability. Mayer has first-hand knowledge of the issue, since she has worked at Cadet Command’s 4th Region at Fort Lewis for 22 years.

Col. Daniel S. Challis, National Advanced Leadership Camp Commander, is not a stranger to the ways of ROTC, either. Challis graduated and received his commission from Army ROTC at Purdue University in May, 1973. Unlike some of his classmates, who attended a summer camp in Fort Riley, Kan., Challis completed Ranger School. Though Ranger school is not exactly advanced camp, Challis said, “We still had to perform some ROTC-mandated events, such as the M-16 qualifications, as well as graded patrols and exercises, much like how Squad and Patrolling STX are this year.” Like Ranger school, the evaluations at NALC are focused on each cadet’s development as a leader. Today, Challis’ experience has added significance. He was a cadet in a wartime environment during the Vietnam era, much like what each cadet faces today.

While summer camps may have changed through the years, the most important aspects have never been altered. The leadership development process and teaching skills necessary to become future Army leaders are still there. Time has given rise to new challenges.

“Today’s new lieutenants and the lieutenants of the future are going to face a world that is very uncertain,” said Challis, “with our enemies much less clearly defined than they were in the past. What NALC works to accomplish is to create leaders who will operate successfully on the broader aspect of officership and the broader aspect of being a leader in a very uncertain environment.”



NALC draws numerous VIP visits

By 2nd Lt. Simon Flake

National Advanced Leadership Camp is one of the biggest annual training events the Army conducts. Each year, Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets from schools across the nation train to develop their skills in the science of warfare and the art of leadership. NALC is such a significant event, it attracts the attention of some very important people.

One of the VIPs who stopped by NALC this year is the man responsible for NALC and all other ROTC programs and activities throughout the nation, Maj. Gen. John T.D. Casey, commander of U.S. Army Cadet Command. Casey was a West Point cadet who graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1969. Although a USMA graduate, when he assumed command Casey was still familiar with ROTC through experience as an ROTC instructor at Kemper Military College in Missouri. Prior to his current assignment, Casey served as the Deputy

Chief of Staff Operations at Headquarters U.S. Army in Europe. Casey visits NALC twice this year, on June 26 for a meeting with the 4th Region ROTC and, depending on his schedule, plans to serve as 13th Regiment's keynote speaker on Aug. 8.

Another VIP to visit NALC this summer was Maj. Gen. Douglas Dollar, the commander of the 80th Division. Dollar began his affiliation with the military as an ROTC cadet at Oklahoma State University. He graduated from OSU with distinguished-military-graduate honors. Dollar received his commission as an infantry lieutenant on May 26, 1968. He visited from July 7 to 9 to see his own troops working in support of NALC training.

Lt. Gen. Dennis Cavin also briefly attended NALC. Cavin is the Commanding General for the U.S. Army Accessions Command and the Deputy Commanding General for Initial Entry Training. The U.S. Army Accessions Com-



The highest-ranking VIP at the 2002 NALC was the Honorable John McLaurin, Deputy Assistant Secretary to the Army for Military Personnel Management and Equal Opportunity Policy.

mand is a new organization that was activated on March 25.

"This command's function is to provide the command, control and coordination to ... produce the best soldier we possibly can produce for the operational Army, and do that efficiently," he said in an interview with the Casemate Army newspaper.

Cavin visited NALC on July 12 in conjunction with the educators' visit. He monitored cadet training and observed the future leaders in production.

These are only three of many more VIPs scheduled to attend NALC. Each VIP has the opportunity to see and interact with the future warrior leaders of America. All cadets have the same opportunities to achieve leadership excellence and, if they take advantage of each leadership opportunity, maybe one day they will be on the VIP list to visit NALC as well.

Recondo cadets are as good as it gets

Story and photos by
2nd Lt. Kate Abbonizio

When they return to their schools from the National Advanced Leadership Camp, some cadets will have earned one of the most coveted awards of all. Completing NALC is reward enough, but these cadets will know they are "the best of the best." The prize is called the Recondo badge and represents hard work and determination. Qualifications are many, exceptions are non-existent and defeat is prevalent. But for cadets who earned the badge, recognition that they surpassed every standard is satisfying.

Qualifications for Recondo begin only three days into camp during the Army Physical Fitness Test. Cadets must earn a score of 270 points or more without a retest. The APFT is the first camp event where cadets are tested on their physical stamina and they have the opportunity to demonstrate their endurance. Earning more than 270 is not as easy as it sounds, since new lieutenants do the grading and make sure flimsy sit-ups or incorrect push-ups are not overlooked.

Following the APFT, cadets continue with events like confidence training, water safety, land navigation proficiency examinations (both day and night), basic rifle marksmanship, machine gun assault course, individual tactical training and hand grenade assault courses as well as Squad STX evaluations and Patrolling STX. Not only must cadets pass these events on the first try, but some of the training, like basic rifle marksmanship and the hand grenade assault course, have specific qualifications. Cadets at BRM must qualify as a marksman (23+) and receive at least an 80 score or higher at the hand grenade assault course. Moreover, to qualify for Recondo, cadets are not authorized



Second Platoon, Bravo Company, honor platoon, had five cadets earning the coveted Recondo badge. From left: Cadet Eric Gordon from Washington University, Cadet Lee Ferguson from The Citadel, Cadet James Thomasson from North Georgia College, Cadet Stephen Pellerin from Norwich University, and Cadet James Hannigan from Illinois State University.



Maria Darby's 3rd Platoon, Bravo Company, came in a close second to the honor platoon, though they tied for having the most cadets to earn the Recondo badge. From left: Cadet Charles Disston from Tulane University, Cadet Maria Darby from Florida A&M University, Cadet Brett Butler from Texas Christian University, and Cadet Mourad Bowen from North Georgia College. Not pictured, but also receiving Recondo, is Cadet Saffar Arjmandi from Xavier University.

waivers, either medical or physical, or to receive anything less than satisfactory in leadership dimensions or performance-potential evaluations. The long list of qualifications often excludes most cadets from the running. In fact, only 16 cadets earned the Recondo badge from 1st Regiment this year and 2nd Regiments is lagging a little behind with eight cadets.

Most of these cadets feel pride after conquering barriers that few others can. Cadet Maria Darby, from Florida A&M University, took little credit for herself, recognizing her platoon and squad members for all the motivation and encouragement they gave her.

"I wanted to stay enthusiastic," said Darby, "so I tried to keep everybody else motivated and, at times, when I



The Recondo badge comes from the 18th Airborne Corps, where soldiers earned the award based on their exhibition of the Army's seven values. At NALC, a different set of criteria are used in addition to the Army's values.

started feeling demotivated everybody would help me out, too." After learning she earned Recondo, her first thoughts were of others and how she now had the opportunity to bring something back to her university. Though her platoon did not win honor platoon, losing by only a few points, they did tie for possessing the highest number of Recondo recipients, five cadets.

Recondo winners will be honored at their home university after completing NALC. The Recondo badge, worn on the Class A uniform, is an upside-down black arrowhead with a gold torch inside, signifying the hard work and determination each cadet endured to earn it. Though the badge can only be worn for a year, the memory is eternal - knowing the obstacles and clearly having defied them.